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24 June 1988OCA FILE log

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director Office of Personnel

FROM: Congressional Affairs

SUBJECT: HR 3400 --Political Activities Act

1. After several conversations and meetings with Charles Battaglia, SSCI staff, over the past two weeks, I finally persuaded Battaglia the Agency needed more than a letter to the Governmental Affairs Committee expressing Agency concern over HR 3400, the Bill which will revise the Hatch Act to permit greater political activity by Federal employees. The indications I have from the staff of the Governmental Affairs Committee are that the Bill will come to Senate floor vote before the election, probably in August.

2. Battaglia called today to say that he and Britt Snider, SSCI minority counsel, had met with Senator Cohen this week. (Cohen is a member of both the SSCI and the Governmental Affairs Committee.) As a result, Cohen has agreed to introduce a floor amendment which will exempt not only the Agency but the Intelligence Community entirely from the bill. Battaglia has written a floor statement to accompany the amendment, based on the letter I wrote but supplemented to include examples of how the Agency would be subjected to sharp criticism should the perception be created that CIA employees were involved in any involved in influencing the election process. Battaglia assured me that it is all unclassified.

3. Battaglia still seems to believe that the bill will not move. It is hard to tell who is right, but, if it does, Cohen seems to be ready. I agreed to keep Battaglia informed of any signs that the bill will be brought to the floor.

cc: DDA
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